



STATE OF OHIO

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**OHIO INSPECTOR GENERAL INVESTIGATION FINDS MEDICAID EMPLOYEE USED PASSWORD
CRACKING SOFTWARE TO CHEAT ON EMPLOYMENT TEST**
Columbus, Ohio, March 13, 2018

The Ohio Inspector General issued a report of investigation today after receiving a complaint from the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) alleging Infrastructure Specialist 2 Nathaniel Regula inappropriately used his administrative rights to access employment testing materials. The complaint further alleged that Regula installed unauthorized software to open the password protected materials.

Regula is employed by ODM as an infrastructure specialist 2 and had administrative rights to the ODM network. Regula was seeking an infrastructure specialist 4 position which required a passing score on a test. On September 18, 2017, he scored a 98 percent on the test which raised suspicions because Regula had previously failed the infrastructure specialist 3 test. Additionally, Regula's answers to the essay questions were nearly identical to the answer key.

The Office of the Inspector General conducted a forensic analysis of Regula's computer and determined that he accessed the test materials; installed unauthorized software to crack the password; copied the files onto a USB drive; deleted the files from his state computer; and accessed the test files on the day of the test from his USB drive. If evidence of the cheating had not been detected, Regula may have received a promotion and pay increase. The Office of the Inspector General found that wrongful acts occurred because Regula's actions violated multiple ODM policies.

The report of investigation has been sent to the Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney and the Columbus City Attorney for consideration.

Ohio Inspector General Report of Investigation file number 2017-CA00035 is now available at:
<http://watchdog.ohio.gov/investigations/2018investigations.aspx>

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